

RESPONSE AND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

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First Inventor	ITANO
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Examiner	Perrin, Joseph L.
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Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SIR:

In response to the Office Action dated March 8, 2005, Applicant submits the following response and requests reconsideration and allowance of the present application for the reasons as set forth below.

Claims 11-22 are pending in the present application with claims 11-14, 16-17 and 21-22 withdrawn from consideration and claims 15 and 18-20 rejected on prior art grounds. Applicant respectfully submits that the present application is in condition for allowance based on the discussion which follows.

As an initial point, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 16 and 17 should not be withdrawn from consideration and should be examined in this application. Claims 16 and 17 which are dependent from claim 15. Further, claims 15-18 were identified in the Restriction Requirement of March 3, 2004 as identified in Group II corresponding to method claims, class 134, subclass 37. In the Response to the Restriction Requirement of April 29, 2004, Applicant elected the claims of Group II. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that claims 16-17 should be examined in the present application.

Claims 15, 18, 19 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,281,302 to Gabric et al (hereinafter "Gabric") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,445,712 to Yanagida or JP 04-346428 to Sony Corp.